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BOROUGH OF SUTTON COLDFIELD

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

For the Year

1946



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TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE
HEALTH AND HOUSING COMMITTEE

AND

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE
MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE COMMITTEE.

Ladies and Gentlemen;

I beg to submit my Report on the health of the Borough for 1946. As I commenced my duties here in the last few weeks of 1946 I can only make general comment on the statistical report for the year. The statistical review as a whole is satisfactory.

I would express my thanks to the members of the staff for their enthusiasm and keenness in their work. I would also like to thank the Chairman and Members of the Health and Housing Committee and of the Maternity and Child Welfare Committee for the help and suggestions given me.

I have the honour to be,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

JAMES R. PRESTON.

Council House,
Sutton Coldfield.

February, 1948.

EXTRACTS FROM THE VITAL STATISTICS.

	Total	M.	F.		
Live births :	756	387	369	Birth rate per 1,000 of	
Legitimate	716	366	350	the estimated resident	
Illegitimate	40	21	19	population ...	17·00
Still-births ...	19	7	12	Rate per 1,000 total	
				(live and still) births...	24·52
Deaths ...	500	242	258	Death rate per 1,000 of	
				the estimated resident	
				population. R.G. ...	11·25
Deaths from puerperal causes				None.	
Death-rate of infants under one year of age :—					
All infants per 1,000 live births	...	...	...		31·75
Legitimate infants per 1,000					
legitimate live births	...	...	...		32·12
Illegitimate infants per 1,000					
illegitimate live births	...	...	...		25
Deaths from cancer (all ages)	...	...	...		97
Deaths from measles (all ages)	...	...	...		None
Deaths from whooping cough (all ages)	...	...	...		None
Deaths from diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	...	...	...		3

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area (in acres)	...	...	...	...	...	...	13,978
Population (estimated R.G. mid-year 1946)—							
For calculation of birth-rate, death-rate and							
incidence of notifiable diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	44,460
Number of inhabited houses (end of 1946)	...	...	...	...	...	...	13,443
Rateable Value	...	...	...	...	...	...	£425,227
Sum represented by a penny rate	...	...	...	...	...	...	£1,689 9s. 11d.

LOCAL ESTIMATE OF POPULATION OF WARDS AT MID-YEAR, 1946.

Trinity	...	...	...	...	...	...	4,887
Hill	...	...	...	...	...	...	7,740
Boldmere (East)	...	...	...	...	...	...	5,878
Boldmere (West)	...	...	...	...	...	...	9,985
Wylde Green	...	...	...	...	...	...	6,023
Maney	...	...	...	...	...	...	5,993
Walmley	...	...	...	...	...	...	4,931
Local estimate of population of Borough at mid-year 1946, 45,437							

TABLE I.

CAUSES OF DEATH ASSIGNABLE TO THE BOROUGH.

							<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>
ALL CAUSES							242	258
1.	Typhoid and para-typhoid fevers			...	...	...	—	—
2.	Cerebro-spinal fever			...	...	...	—	—
3.	Scarlet fever			...	...	...	—	—
4.	Whooping cough			...	...	...	—	—
5.	Diphtheria			...	...	...	1	—
6.	Tuberculosis of respiratory system			...	...	...	2	7
7.	Other forms of tuberculosis			...	...	...	—	1
8.	Syphilitic diseases			...	...	...	2	—
9.	Influenza			...	...	...	2	4
10.	Measles			...	...	...	—	—
11.	Acute poliomyelitis and polio-encephalitis			...	...	...	1	—
12.	Acute inf. encephalitis			...	...	...	—	—
13.	Cancer of buc. cavity and oesophagus (M), uterus (F)			...	...	...	4	5
14.	Cancer of stomach and duodenum			...	...	...	7	6
15.	Cancer of breast			...	...	...	—	13
16.	Cancer of other sites			...	...	...	38	24
17.	Diabetes			...	...	...	—	1
18.	Intra-cranial vascular lesions			...	...	...	32	35
19.	Heart disease			...	...	...	71	72
20.	Other diseases of circulatory system			...	...	...	7	7
21.	Bronchitis			...	...	...	9	9
22.	Pneumonia			...	...	...	7	6
23.	Other respiratory diseases			...	...	...	2	3
24.	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum			...	...	...	4	2
25.	Diarrhoea under 2 years			...	...	...	1	2
26.	Appendicitis			...	...	...	—	2
27.	Other digestive diseases			...	...	...	8	5
28.	Nephritis			...	...	...	6	11
29.	Puerperal and post-abort. sepsis			...	...	...	—	—
30.	Other maternal causes			...	...	...	—	—
31.	Premature birth			...	...	...	1	3
32.	Con. mal. birth inj. infant diseases			...	...	...	4	8
33.	Suicide			...	...	...	5	2
34.	Road traffic accidents			...	...	...	3	2
35.	Other violent causes			...	...	...	4	3
36.	All other causes			...	...	...	21	25
Deaths of infants under 1 year		Total	...	...	...	...	8	16
		Legitimate	...	...	...	...	8	15
		Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	—	1
STILLBIRTHS		Total	...	...	...	...	7	12
		Legitimate	...	...	...	...	7	11
		Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	—	1

CAUSES OF, AND AGES AT DEATH, 1946.

TABLE II.

DISEASES.	MALES.										FEMALES.									
	Under 1 year	1 and under 2	2 and under 5	5 and under 15	15 and under 25	25 and under 45	45 and under 65	65 and under 75	75 and upwards	All ages	Under 1 year	1 and under 2	2 and under 5	5 and under 15	15 and under 25	25 and under 45	45 and under 65	65 and under 75	75 and upwards	All ages
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	3	2	—	—	—	—
Tuberculosis of respiratory system ...	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	2	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	7
Other tuberculous diseases ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Syphilitic disease	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	2	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	4
Influenza	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ac. poliomyelitis and polio-encephalitis ...	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cancer of buc. cavity and oesophagus (M), uterus (F)	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	1	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	1	—	5
Cancer of stomach and duodenum ...	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	2	2	7	—	—	—	—	—	4	2	3	1	6
Cancer of breast	—	—	—	—	—	—	15	18	5	38	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	1	2	13
Cancer of all other sites ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	11	15	32	—	—	—	—	—	—	7	6	5	24
Diabetes	—	—	—	—	—	—	17	19	31	71	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	11	17	35
Intra-cranial vasc. lesions ...	—	—	—	—	—	4	1	4	2	7	1	—	—	—	—	—	6	13	51	72
Heart disease	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	4	1	9	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	3	7
Other dis's of circulatory system ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	4	1	7	2	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	8	9
Bronchitis	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	3	1	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	2	6
Pneumonia	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	1	3
Other respiratory diseases ...	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	2	2
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	1	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	2
Diarrhoea (under 2 years) ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	2
Appendicitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	4	2	8	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	3	—	5
Other digestive diseases ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	3	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	2	—	11
Nephritis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	3
Premature birth	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	8
Con. mal. birth injury, infant diseases	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	7	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3
Suicide	—	—	1	—	—	3	—	2	—	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	2
Road traffic accidents ...	—	—	—	—	1	1	2	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	2
Other violent causes ...	1	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	3

MORTALITY BY AGE AND SEX. TABLE III.

		<i>Males.</i>	<i>Females.</i>	<i>Total.</i>	Death rate per 1,000 population (estimated R.G.)
Under 1 year	...	8	16	24	0·54
1 and under 2	...	—	—	—	—
2 and under 5	...	2	1	3	0·07
5 and under 15	...	—	2	2	0 04
15 and under 25	...	2	3	5	0·11
25 and under 45	...	15	11	26	0·58
45 and under 65	...	59	54	113	2·54
65 and under 75	...	84	51	135	3·04
75 and upwards	...	72	120	192	4·32

DEATHS IN WARDS DURING EACH QUARTER TABLE IV.

		<i>1st quarter</i>	<i>2nd quarter</i>	<i>3rd quarter</i>	<i>4th quarter</i>	<i>Total</i>	Crude death rates per 1,000 population (Local estimates)
Trinity	...	20	18	21	14	73	14·9
Hill	...	22	15	15	23	75	9·7
Boldmere East	...	28	18	12	17	75	12·8
Boldmere West	...	24	13	22	16	75	7·5
Wylde Green	...	25	16	18	19	78	13·0
Maney	...	30	11	20	20	81	13·5
Walmley	...	15	10	9	9	43	8·7
Totals	...	164	101	117	118	500	11·0

VITAL STATISTICS FOR PAST 10 YEARS. TABLE V.

	1937	1938	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946
BIRTH RATE ...	12·98	15·02	14·45	14·30	13·24	15·65	16·13	19·63	16·10	17·00
CRUDE DEATH RATE (R.G.) ...	11·50	9·46	9·71	11·96	11·17	10·50	10·98	11·26	9·71	11·25
ADJUSTED DEATH RATE (R.G.) ...	11·27	9·27	9·52	11·72	—	—	—	—	—	—
INFANT MORTALITY RATE ...	46·15	47·62	28·78	34·25	48·21	40·79	37·3	28·81	35·14	31·75

Population.

The population at the mid-year 1946 as estimated by the Registrar General is 44,460, as compared with 42,420 for 1945.

The corresponding local estimate, based on the number of inhabited dwellings is 45,437. This compares with the local estimate of 42,987 for 1945.

Births.

The number of live births assigned to the Borough is 73 more than those for 1945, and the rate is 17·0, as against a birth rate of 19·1 for England and Wales and 21·3 for the Smaller Towns.

The still-birth rate per 1,000 of the population is 0·43, as compared with ·53 for England and Wales and ·59 for the Smaller Towns, and the rate per 1,000 total births (live and still) is 24·5 compared with 27 in 1945.

Illegitimate births have decreased from 50 in 1945 to 40 in the year under review, and the rate per 1,000 total births (live and still) is 52 as compared with 71 in 1945, which, although an improvement is still higher than the average of 39 for the five pre-war years.

Deaths.

Deaths assigned to the Borough number 500 as compared with 412 in 1945, and for the year under review the crude rate per 1,000 population is 11·25, which compares with 11·7 for the Smaller Towns.

In infectious diseases, deaths recorded were from diphtheria, 1; influenza, 6; poliomyelitis, 1; and respiratory tuberculosis, 9. The incidence of respiratory tuberculosis was much the same as in 1945.

Deaths assigned to heart disease continue to outnumber those under any other listed cause, and the mortality rate is 3·2, which is a marked increase on the rate of 2·7 for 1945.

The number of deaths due to heart disease is considerably increased over 1945, this increase is almost entirely due to deaths in males over 50 years of age and especially in the age group 75 and upwards.

Amongst deaths from violence are drowning, 3; coal gas poisoning, 2; scalds, 1; and falls, 1.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.
STAFF OF HEALTH DEPARTMENT OF THE AUTHORITY.

Officers.		Offices held, etc.	
<i>Medical.</i>			
Dr. J. H. Wright (Resigned end of August).	M.B. D.P.H.	Medical Officer of Health. Medical Officer for Maternity and Child Welfare Services.	
Dr. J. R. Preston (Commenced 11th November).	B.Sc. M.B. Ch.B. D.P.H. F.R.F.P.S.	Medical Officer of Health. Medical Officer for Maternity and Child Welfare Services.	
<i>Sanitary.</i>			
Mr. W. Burton ...	...	Senior Sanitary Inspector.	
†Mr. C. E. Impett	... A.R.S.I.	Sanitary Inspector.	
†Mr. N. J. Howard	... Cert.R.S.I.	Sanitary Inspector. On Military Service— resumed duty 1st March.	
<i>Health Visiting Staff.</i>			
Miss E. M. Grubb	... S.R.N.	Senior Health Visitor, Maternity and Child Welfare.	
*Miss M. Wakelin	... S.R.N. S.C.M.	Health Visitor, Maternity and Child Welfare.	
*Miss M. R. Scrivener	... S.R.N. S.C.M.	Health Visitor, Maternity and Child Welfare.	
<i>Clerical.</i>			
Mr. J. W. Perkins	... ..	Chief Clerk. On Military Service— resumed duty 10th August.	
Miss R. E. Hall	... ..	Clerk.	
Mrs. H. M. Whittaker	... ..	Clerk.	
Miss G. E. Collister	... ..	Clerk.	
Miss B. G. Beech	... ..	Clerk.	
<i>Part-time Officers.</i>			
Dr. E. Stockwin	... M.B. Ch. B. D.P.H.	Assistant Medical Officer, Maternity and Child Welfare Service.	

†Meat and Food Inspectors' Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute.

*Health Visitors' Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

Provision for Maternity.

By arrangement with the Public Assistance Officer, 42 women were admitted for confinement to the Solihull Public Assistance Maternity Unit, and 19 to the Emergency Hospital, Nuneaton. The Maternity Hospital, Loveday Street, admitted 45 cases from the Area, 10 of which were referred from the Maternity and Child Welfare Department and the remainder by private practitioners. 9 women were also admitted to the maternity block of a Birmingham voluntary hospital.

Private maternity homes in the Borough, registered for 8 beds, provided accommodation for 172 residents of the Borough, and the Maternity Unit, Anchorage Road, which opened in July and registered for 16 beds, accommodated 81. 37 residents were admitted to private nursing homes outside the Borough.

The total number of women residents in the Borough, therefore, whose confinements took place in institutions is 405 or 52·3 of the total births assignable to the Borough.

The private nursing homes in the Borough also provided accommodation for the confinements of 110 non-resident women, in addition to the residents mentioned above, a total for the year of 363.

There was an increase in the number of confinements in hospitals or maternity homes, approximately half of the total births taking place in these institutions.

Home Helps.

This service was continued successfully during the year and the Home Helps attended 84 cases, namely:—normal maternity cases, 64; ante-natal cases, 2; post-natal cases, 1; and other maternal emergencies, 17.

Child Life Protection.

At the end of the year 5 persons were on the register of foster parents and 67 children were boarded.

13 visits were paid by the Visitors for the purpose of supervision and the home conditions and health and well-being of the children were found to be satisfactory at all times.

Orthopaedic and other Treatment.

One child was referred for treatment at the Orthopaedic Hospital, Birmingham under the Local Authority's Scheme, for club foot.

14 children were referred to the Children's Hospital for naevus (6); strabismus (5); diseased tonsils (1); and phimosis (2).

2 children were placed in the care of the Assistant Tuberculosis Officer.

CLINICS.

ATTENDANCES AT CLINICS. TABLE VI.

Centres	Number of Sessions	CHILDREN.			ANTE-NATAL.	
		First attendances under 1 year	First attendances 1—5 years.	Total attendances	First attendances	Total attendances
Holland Street	Infants and Toddlers 63	198 —	— 106	2,245 (Infants and Toddlers)	— —	— —
	Ante-Natal 12	—	—	—	59	185 P.N. 20
Boldmere	Infants and Toddlers 58	182 —	— 55	2,207 (Infants and Toddlers)	— —	— —
	Ante-Natal 12	—	—	—	64	194 P.N. 11
Four Oaks	Combined Clinics 26	93	18	792	14	34 P.N. 2
Minworth	Combined Clinics 22	25	10	419	10	40
	193	498	189	5,663	147	486

CONSULTATIONS BY MEDICAL OFFICER. TABLE VII.

Centres.	Number of Clinics.	CHILDREN.			ANTE-NATAL.
		Under 1 year	1—5 years	Total	Total
Holland Street	Children 62	219	278	497	—
	Ante-Natal 12	—	—	—	185 P.N. 20
Boldmere ...	Children ... 55	246	301	547	—
	Ante-Natal 12	—	—	—	190 P.N. 11
Four Oaks ...	Combined 24	113	71	184	34 P.N. 2
Minworth ...	Combined 22	62	29	91	40
	187	640	679	1,319	482

Public Health Act, 1936. Section 203.

Live births notified	...	...	...	...	...	647
Still-births notified	...	...	...	...	...	11
Births transferred inwards—						
Live births	...	...	...	...	...	152
Still-births	...	...	...	...	...	9
Births transferred outwards—						
Live births	...	...	...	...	...	109
Still-births	...	...	...	...	...	1

Health Visitors.

3 Full-Time Health Visitors were employed.

Domiciliary Visits by Health Visitors.

First visits to expectant mothers	...	...	...	185
Total visits to expectant mothers	...	...	...	382
First visits to children under one year	...	...	660	
Total visits to children under one year	...	...	2,247	
Total visits to children between the ages of one and five years	...	...	...	3,407
Visits to boarded-out children	...	...	...	13
Visits to old persons	...	...	...	9
Visits for inquiries into still-births	...	...	...	17
Visits for inquiries into ophthalmia neonatorum	...	...	...	13
Visits for inquiries into puerperal pyrexia	...	...	...	3
Inspection of nursing homes	...	...	...	10
Special request visits	...	...	...	622
Unsuccessful visits	...	...	...	1,555
				<hr/> 8,278 <hr/>
Number of households visited	...	...	...	7,752

Infant Mortality.

Deaths in infants under one year number 24, and the rate of infant mortality is 32 per 1,000 total live births. This rate is slightly lower than that for 1945 (35) and compares with 43 for England and Wales and 37 for the Smaller Towns for the year under review.

Amongst the causes of death as certified are :—
 prematurity, 5 ; congenital malformation, 9 ; digestive diseases, 3 ;
 broncho pneumonia, 3 ; and other causes, 4.

Maternal Morbidity and Mortality.

No death is recorded from puerperal infection or from other maternal causes.

Two cases of puerperal infection were notified in the area.

Care of the Unmarried Mother and Illegitimate Child.

This work has been continued under the arrangements made with the Birmingham Diocesan Council for Moral Welfare and the Superintendent, Mrs. Hollyoak, reporting on her work in the Borough during the year gives the following statistics :—

Total number of cases resident in the Borough							
brought to notice and supervised	...	...					40
Arrangements made for hospital confinements			...				8
Arrangements made for care in Moral Welfare							
Homes	...	...	...	...	...	...	11
Help re affiliation, putative fathers, etc.			...		...		9
Married mothers ; help re adoption, etc.			...		...		6
Unmarried mothers	...	...	...	...	...		4

The illegitimate rate per 1,000 live births has decreased from a rate of 73 for the year 1945 to 53 for the year under review.

Care of Premature Infants.

Twenty-six under-weight babies were notified by doctors and midwives during the year, 6 of whom were born in private houses and 20 in nursing homes.

Of the babies born in nursing homes, 9 died during the first 24 hours. Of the 6 babies born in private houses 2 died during the first 24 hours.

Infestation.

13 cases of scabies in 7 families were treated by the Health Visitors in the homes throughout the year, figures which indicate a very satisfactory reduction in the incidence of the disease.

18 children and 1 adult in 10 families were treated for pediculosis.

Nursing Homes.

During the year under review one application for registration was received and granted, and one home was temporarily closed owing to lack of staff.

At the end of the year 4 persons remained on the register in respect of 3 nursing homes, and 1 maternity home, providing bed accommodation for 24 medical and surgical cases and 24 maternity cases.

10 visits of inspection were made during the year, and having regard to difficulties arising out of shortage of nursing and domestic staff, management of the homes has been entirely satisfactory.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

Infectious Diseases.

Cases removed to Hospital :—

Scarlet Fever	13
Diphtheria	6
Whooping Cough	1
Cerebro Spinal Fever	1
Typhoid	2
Dysentery	1
Erysipelas	2
Poliomyelitis	2
Bedding stoved or destroyed.....	32
Houses disinfected.....	119
Schools disinfected.....	—
Common lodging houses disinfected.....	—

Slaughter Houses.

Number on register	9
Statutory or informal notices served.....	—

Dairies and Milk-shops.

Number of cowkeepers and dairymen registered.....	79
Number of dairies on the register.....	54
Number of retail purveyors.....	46
Registered as :—	
Producers	8
Selling milk in shops from unsealed containers.....	1
Selling milk from carts.....	45
Statutory notices served.....	—
Informal notices served.....	13

Informal notices complied with.....	13
Number of producers (including designated milk)	39
Number of dairy farms.....	40
Informal notices served.....	11
Informal notices complied with.....	11

Cowsheds.

Number in use.....	94
Number not in use.....	6
Number of cows kept.....	740
Actual accommodation.....	876

Designated Milk.

Number of accredited farms in the Borough.....	13
Number retailing accredited milk in the Borough.....	6
Number of T.T. farms in the Borough.....	2
Number retailing T.T. milk in the Borough.....	10
Number pasteurising milk in the Borough.....	—
Number retailing pasteurised milk in the Borough.....	14

Non-designated Milk.

Number of producers in the Borough.....	25
Number of retailers in the Borough.....	45

Factory Bakehouses with power.

Number on register	15
Statutory notices served	—
Informal notices served.....	2
Informal notices complied with	2

Factory Bakehouses without power.

Number on register.....	2
Statutory and informal notices served	—

Manufacture of Preserved Foods, etc. Food and Drugs Act, 1938. (Section 14).

Number on register.....	62
Statutory notices served	—
Informal notices served.....	6
Informal notices complied with	6

Ice Cream Dealers.

Number on register	77
Number of local manufacturers	7
Number acting as agents for firms outside the Borough...	70
Statutory and informal notices served	—

Factories without power (excluding Bakehouses).

Number on register	44
Statutory and informal notices served	—

Factories with power (excluding Bakehouses).

Number on register	101
Statutory notices served	—
Informal notices served.....	12
Informal notices complied with	12

Factory Outworkers.

Number on register	5
Statutory and informal notices served	—

Visits.

Slaughterhouses.....	6
Dairy Farms	521
Cowshed dairies	521
Dairies and milkshops	103
Meat inspection	435
Unsound food.....	174
Manufacturers of preserved foods	104
Restaurants and kitchens.....	38
Fish-frying	17
Food stalls, Sutton Park	34
Ice cream	23
Shops	228
Bakehouses with power.....	75
Bakehouses without power	8
Factories with power.....	207
Factories without power	100
Factory smoke observations.....	4
Outworkers.....	7
Infectious diseases.....	774
Schools :—	
Elementary	66
Private	23
Secondary	8
School cooking centre	6
Destructor	65
Refuse complaints.....	130
Salvage boxes.....	11
Pig food bins	16
Tips	97
Privies.....	109
Sewers	66
Sewage work	6

Condemned houses	116
Dirty houses	97
Overcrowding.....	12
Housing sites	24
Squatters' camps	86
Evacuee houses.....	18
Military camps	14
Bug infestation	2
Moveable dwellings	18
Public houses	24
Public conveniences	34
Picture houses	7
Pig sties	29
Animals improperly kept.....	29
Stables	15
Public halls	3
Swimming baths	22
Stagnant pools	3
Ambulance depot	3
Mortuary.....	1
Hospitals.....	3
Nursing homes	24
Railway conveniences	9
New drainage work	37
Drain tests	13
Cesspools.....	132
Drinking wells	117
Rivers and streams	83
Rams	9
Ditches	18
Floods	126
Pleasure fairs	5
Ants, cockroaches, etc.....	40
Rats infestation (including Rodent Operative).....	3511
Quarries	11
Flats and basements.....	135
Under Public Health or Housing Acts.....	3867
Under Housing Consolidated Regulations included in above	154
On complaint of general nuisance	300

Summary of defects remedied and nuisances abated.

Dwelling houses.

Drains repaired	22
Choked drains cleared	48
Plaster repaired	157
Walls pointed and repaired	25
Damp walls treated	48

Dangerous gable-end walls rebuilt	I
Ashbins renewed	95
Roofs repaired	221
Windows and doors repaired	121
W.C. tanks repaired or new ones provided.....	22
Privy pans renewed	2
Broken W.C. pans renewed	17
Choked W.C. drains cleared.....	34
Wash-houses and W.C.s limewashed.....	32
W.C. pan joints repaired	25
W.C. seats, walls, floors and roofs repaired.....	17
W.C.s condemned	2
New W.C.s erected.....	2
Vent and soil pipes repaired.....	14
Furnaces repaired	20
Chimneys repaired.....	61
Burst pipes repaired	9
Waste pipes repaired or renewed.....	20
Spouting and downpipes repaired	119
Dirty yards, drains and W.C.s cleansed.....	30
Houses cleansed.....	31
Outhouse roofs and walls repaired	44
Rainwater cisterns abolished or repaired	3
Floors repaired	57
Sink channel and paving repairs.....	35
Defective sinks renewed	3
Sinks repaired	5
Sculleries limewashed	6
Grates and ranges repaired	35
Bedding destroyed or cleansed.....	I
Overcrowding abated	7
Inspection chamber covers provided and fixed.....	I
Inspection chambers repaired.....	4
Animals improperly kept.....	4
Pump and ram repairs	6
Cold water cisterns renewed.....	5
Refuse removal	10
Removal of manure	I
Overflowing cesspools	8
New drains laid	8
Drinking wells cleansed and repaired.....	I
Air-bricks fixed under floors.....	4
Choked waste pipes cleared	2
Wash-hand basins renewed	I
Covers provided to drinking wells	I
Pig bins and refuse bins insanitary	I
New pumps provided to drinking wells	2
Stairs repaired and handrails fixed	9

Elementary Schools.

Choked W.C.s cleared and cleansed.....	10
Dirty W.C.s limewashed	3
Flushing cisterns repaired.....	4
Choked drains cleared	1
Ashbins provided	2

Private Schools.

Dirty W.C.s cleansed.....	2
---------------------------	---

Secondary Schools.

No defects remedied or nuisances abated.

Dairy Farms—Cowsheds.

Fold yards abolished and filled in.....	3
Cowsheds limewashed	17
Fold yards cleansed	4
Cowshed roof and paving repairs.....	3
Rat infestation dealt with.....	7
Milking stools cleansed.....	4

Dairy Farms—Dairies.

Dairy roofs and floors repaired.....	1
New dairies provided.....	1
Dairies limewashed	2
Dairies improperly used	1
Repairs to drinking wells.....	1

Retail Purveyors and Milkshops.

Dairies limewashed	1
Dirty floors and utensils cleansed	1
Rat infestation dealt with.....	2

Slaughterhouses.

Rat infestation dealt with	4
----------------------------------	---

Factory Bakehouses with power.

Bakehouses and bread stores limewashed.....	1
Dirty W.C. pans, floors and seats cleansed.....	1
W.C. tanks repaired	2
Floor and roof repairs	2
Rat infestation dealt with.....	3

Factory Bakehouses without power.

No defects remedied or nuisances abated.

Factories with power (excluding Bakehouses).

Rat infestation dealt with.....	4
Removal of refuse	1
Dirty W.C.s and urinals cleansed.....	11
W.C.s limewashed.....	3
Choked drains cleared	3
Choked W.C.s cleared	21
Insufficient lavatory accommodation provided.....	1

Factories without power (excluding Bakehouses).

No defects remedied or nuisances abated.

Shops—Retail.

New chamber covers fixed	1
W.C. flushing cisterns repaired.....	1
Ashbins provided	1
Dirty yards and drains cleared.....	2
W.C.s cleansed	1
Rat infestation dealt with.....	17

Restaurants and Hotel Kitchens.

Dirty W.C.s cleansed.....	1
Defective flushing cisterns repaired.....	1
Rat infestation dealt with.....	5

*Manufacture of Preserved Foods, etc. Food and Drugs Act,
1938 (Section 14).*

Dirty yards cleansed	1
Plaster repaired.....	1
Ashbins renewed	7
Kitchens and stores limewashed.....	1
Choked drains cleared	1
Rat infestation dealt with.....	4
Accumulation of refuse removed from backyard	1
Furnaces repaired	1

Public Houses.

Burst water pipes repaired	1
Choked drains cleared	1
Rat infestation dealt with.....	2

Public Conveniences.

Dirty W.C.s and urinals cleansed.....	5
---------------------------------------	---

Picture Houses.

Dirty urinals cleansed	1
Dirty W.C.s cleansed.....	2
Choked W.C.s and urinals drains cleared and cleansed.....	2

Amusement Fairs.

No defects remedied or nuisances abated.

Housing Statistics, 1946.

1. Inspection of dwelling houses during the year :—

(1) (a) Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	1392
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose.....	3867
(2) (a) Number of dwelling houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932.....	140
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose.....	154
(3) Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	None
(4) Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	506

2. Remedy of defects during the year without service of Formal Notices :—

Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers.....	484
--	-----

3. Action under Statutory Powers during the year :—

(a) Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—

(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices served requiring repairs.....	6
(2) Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—	
(a) By owners	6
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners ...	None

(b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts :—

(1)	Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices served requiring defects to be remedied	15
(2)	Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :—	
(a)	By owners	13
(b)	By Local Authority in default of owners...	None
(c)	Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936.	
(1)	Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	None
(2)	Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	None
(d)	Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936.	
(1)	Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenements or rooms having been rendered fit.....	None

4. Housing Act, 1936 Part IV. Overcrowding :—

(a)	(i)	Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year.....	6
	(ii)	Number of families dwelling therein.....	12
	(iii)	Number of persons dwelling therein : Adults...	40
		Children	9
(b)		Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year.....	21
(c)	(i)	Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year.....	15
	(ii)	Number of persons concerned in such cases :—	
		Adults.....	51
		Children	17
(d)		Particulars of any cases in which dwelling houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding	None

FOOD CERTIFIED AS UNFIT FOR HUMAN CONSUMPTION.

<i>Meat.</i>		Approx. weight.		
4	Tins	Corned beef ...	24-lbs.	Destroyed.
46	„	Stewed steaks ...	46-lbs.	„
21	„	Ready meals ...	21-lbs.	„
576	„	Steak and kidney	576-lbs.	„
1	Tin	Ox tongues ...	6-lbs.	„
1	„	Pork luncheon meat	1-lb.	„
3	„	Pork sausage meat	3-lbs.	„
2	Tins	Meat roll ...	1-lb.	„
2	„	Prem ...	2-lbs.	„
1	Tin	Treet ...	1-lb.	„
2	Tins	Pork loaf ...	12-lbs.	„
5	„	Lambs' tongues	7-lbs.	„

<i>Fish.</i>				
65	Tins	Pilchards ...	Destroyed.	Blown or damaged.
66	„	Salmon—		
		Grade I. 7 tins	„	„
		Grade II. 19 tins	„	„
		Household 40 tins	„	„
3	„	Crawfish ...	„	„
34	„	Sardines ...	„	„

<i>Milk.</i>				
168	Tins	Evaporated milk	Destroyed.	Blown or damaged.
2	„	Skimmed milk ...	„	„
37	„	Full cream milk...	„	„
7	„	Household (dried milk)	„	„

<i>Fruit.</i>				
7	Tins	Peaches ...	Destroyed.	Blown or damaged
16	„	Pears ...	„	„
16	„	Plums ...	„	„

<i>Preserves.</i>				
6	lbs.	Pineapple jam ...	Destroyed.	Blown or damaged.
4	„	Apricot jam ...	„	„
2	„	Grape jam ...	„	„
10	„	Marmalade ...	„	„
20	„	Golden syrup ...	„	„

Vegetables.

196	Tins	Beans	...	...	Destroyed.	Blown or damaged.
55	„	Peas	...	...	„	„
8	„	Beetroot	...	...	„	„
6	„	Carrots	...	...	„	„
7	„	Tomatoes	...	...	„	„
1	Tin	Spinach	...	...	„	„
1	„	Potatoes	...	...	„	„
5	Tins	Mixed vegetables			„	„
2	„	Macaroni	...	...	„	„

Soup.

49	Tins	Soup	Destroyed.	Blown or damaged.
----	------	------	-----	-----	------------	-------------------

Meat.

Hindquarters	beef	...	113-lbs.	*Returned.	Bonetaint.
Bacon	...	...	3-lbs.	Destroyed.	Miscured.
Sheeps' livers	...	...	10-lbs.	„	Fluke.
Pork sausages	...	...	102-lbs.	„	Unsound.
Beef sausages	...	...	222-lbs.	„	„
Pork luncheon meat	...	...	39-lbs.	„	„

Fish (wet).

Cod fillet	...	...	14-stone	Destroyed.	Unsound.
Herrings	...	...	47-stone	„	„
Trout	...	...	6-stone	„	„
Kippers	...	...	3-stone	„	„
Melt	...	...	7-stone	„	„
Plaice	...	...	25-stone	„	„
Soles	...	...	8-stone	„	„
Haddock	...	...	5-stone	„	„
Codlings	...	...	5-stone	„	„
Turbot	...	...	10-stone	„	„

Miscellaneous.

971	Eggs	...	...	Destroyed.	Unsound.
396	Lbs.	Coffee beans	...	„	Disinfectant contamination.
110	„	Dates	...	„	Fermented.
1	Tin	Date pudding	...	„	Unsound.
38	Lbs.	Raisins	...	„	Fermented.

*Returned to Ministry of Food Salvage Organisation.

55 Lbs.	Prunes ...	...	Destroyed.	Mould.
58 Lbs.	Flour ...	...	„	Vermin contaminated.
4 Pkts.	Semolina ...	...	„	Out of condition.
100 Lbs.	Soya Malt ...	...	„	Water soaked.
11 Pkts.	Dessert Mould ...	...	„	Out of condition.
10 Pkts.	Frutella Table Dessert	...	„	Out of condition.
2 Tins	Dried Eggs ...	...	„	Out of condition.
144 Tins	Egg Substitute...	...	„	Out of condition.
1 Lb.	Suet ...	...	„	Rancid.
9 Pkts.	Sponge Puddings	...	„	Out of condition.
13 Lbs.	Cheese ...	...	„	Mite.
144	Pies ...	...	„	Mouldy and unsound.
1 Lb.	Biscuits ...	...	„	Soapy.
17 Jars	Meat and Fish Paste	...	„	Unsound.
1 Lb.	Mustard ...	...	„	Out of condition.
82 Pkts.	Chocolate Spread	...	„	Out of condition.
24 bottles	Custard Flavouring	...	„	Out of condition.
4 Lbs.	Sweets ...	...	„	Disinfectant contamination.

ANIMALS SLAUGHTERED BY THE OWNER UNDER LICENCE FROM
THE MINISTRY OF FOOD.

Number of animals known to have been slaughtered during the year.

462 Pigs. 1 Calf.

Number of animals inspected during the year.

417 Pigs. 1 Calf.

Number of visits made for the purpose of inspection : 435 visits.

Statement of diseased or unfit conditions found.

TUBERCULOSIS.

10 Pigs' Heads	...	...	100 lbs.
1 Pig's Pluck	...	...	8 lbs.
1 Mesenteric Fat	...	...	2 lbs.

2.37% found to be affected with tuberculosis.

OTHER CAUSES.

2 Pigs' Lungs (Pneumonia)	10 lbs.
1 Pig's Lungs (Cysts)	5 lbs.

0.72% found to be unfit due to causes other than tuberculosis.

FACTORIES.

1.—Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health.
Including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors.

Premises.	Number of		
	Inspections	Written Notices	Prosecutions
Factories with mechanical power ...	108	11	—
Factories without mechanical power...	44	—	—
Other Premises under the Act (including works of building and engineering construction but not including outworkers' premises)	8	1	—
TOTAL ...	160	12	—

2.—Defects found.

Particulars.	Number of defects.			Number of offences in respect of which Prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness (S.1) ...	1	1	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2)	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3) ...	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)...	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)—				
Insufficient	1	1	—	—
Unsuitable or defective ...	41	41	—	—
Not separate for sexes ...	—	—	—	—
Other offences	10	10	—	—
(Not including offences relating to Home Work or offences under the Sections mentioned in the Schedule to the Ministry of Health (Factories and Workshops Transfer of Powers) Order, 1921, and re-enacted in the Third Schedule of the Factories Act, 1937).				
TOTAL ...	53	53	—	—

3.—Outwork in Unwholesome Premises, Section 108.
 NIL.

4.—Registered Factories without power.

Factories without power on the Register at end of year.	Number.
Dressmakers	7
Bakehouses without power	2
Joiners and Builders	9
Millinery	4
Boot repairers	2
Photographers	2
Motor and cycle repairers	3
Tailors	1
Stonemason	1
Watch repairer	1
Radio supply	4
Golf Club maker	1
Gas fitting	1
Plaster carving	1
Speedy valeting	1
Destructor	1
Paint mixing	1
Beer bottling	1
Upholsterer	1
TOTAL ...	44

5.—Other Matters.

Class.	Number.
Matters notified to H.M. Inspector of Factories :—	
Failure to affix Abstract of the Factory and Workshops Acts (s.133, 1901)	nil.
Action taken in matters referred by H.M. Inspector as remediable under the Public Health Acts, but not under the Factory and Workshops Acts (s.5. 1901)	nil.
Notified by H.M. Inspector	nil.
Reports of action taken sent to H.M. Inspector	nil.
Others	nil.
Underground Bakehouses (s.101) in use at the end of the year	nil.
TOTAL ...	nil.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

In the year under review, apart from a sharp increase in scarlet fever, there is no marked change in the incidence of infectious disease.

The number of cases of scarlet fever notified is 87, compared with 37 notified in 1945. 64% of the infectious diseases are in the age group 5—10 years and 4% in the pre-school group.

The case rate is 2.0 per 1,000 civilian population as compared with 1.38 for England and Wales. The mortality is nil.

The incidence of diphtheria is much lower than the previous year, but of the two cases notified, one, a man of 27 years, unfortunately died. The Public Health Department has been informed that this last case was inoculated whilst in the Army.

Forty-three nose and throat swabs were examined, of these three were reported as positive.

Eight 8,000 units phials of anti-toxin were issued to practitioners, free of charge.

Diphtheria Immunization.

The number of children 0—14 years in the Borough artificially immunized at 31st December, 1946, is 85% of the total child population at these ages. The percentages at ages 0—4 years and 5—14 years are respectively 70% and 94%. The latter figures compare with 59% and 92% at the end of 1945.

During the year under review 473 children had complete courses of inoculations; 437 in the age group 0—4 years and 36 in the age group 5—14 years.

In pursuance of the policy of carrying out the inoculations in the 12—15 months age group, 328 out of the 437 inoculations were in the age group 12—24 months.

These immunization returns are satisfactory, but in the period of the report 1 death from diphtheria has been recorded in the Borough in an inoculated person.

Twenty-eight cases of measles were notified during the year, a great decrease from the previous year in which there was an epidemic showing 359 cases notified.

The case rate is .63 as compared with 3.92 for England and Wales and 3.70 for Smaller Towns.

A slight decline in the general incidence of whooping cough was recorded, but there was a sharp rise in the autumn, the majority of cases being in the age group 5—10 years.

The case rate is 2.00 as compared with 2.28 for England and Wales and 2.05 for the Smaller Towns.

No deaths were recorded from whooping cough.

Whooping Cough Immunization.

Although views are still at variance as regards the value of immunization against whooping cough, nevertheless this service was provided for those who desired it.

The number inoculated during the year 1946 was 160 as compared with 148 in 1945.

One case of typhoid fever was notified on 19th August, in a girl of 9 years of age. The patient was on a visit to her aunt here from Aberystwyth, where she had ice cream from several sources. No definite source was traced but it was considered likely that the infection originated in Aberystwyth.

The case rate is .02 as compared with .01 for England and Wales and the Smaller Towns.

One case of paratyphoid was notified on 24th April, in a woman of 36 years of age, but was not confirmed by bacteriological investigations.

Four cases of dysentery were notified. The cases were sporadic and no common source of infection was found. Bacteriological investigation of the cases proved one to be due to *B. dysenteriae* Sonne.

Twenty-four cases of pneumonia were notified during the year. This compared with 25 in 1945.

The case rate is 0.50, as compared with 0.89 for England and Wales and 0.74 for the Smaller Towns. 50% of the cases occurred in the age group 45—65 years.

One case of cerebro-spinal fever was notified, removed to hospital and recovered.

The case rate is 0.02 as compared with 0.05 in 1945.

Three cases of poliomyelitis were notified, two were removed to hospital and one, a boy of 15 years, died soon after admission.

Two cases of puerperal pyrexia were notified, one occurred in a maternity home and one at home. The latter was removed to hospital. No deaths were recorded.

The rate per 1,000 total births is 2·6, as compared with 8·5 for England and Wales and 7·63 for the Smaller Towns.

Four cases of ophthalmia neonatorum occurred. Three were notified by the Eye Hospital, Birmingham, and one by a local medical practitioner.

Notifications of new cases of respiratory tuberculosis number 19, as against 23 in 1945, the figures being higher in males.

The incidence was spread generally through the age groups, apart from a slight increase in the 20—35 years age group.

The case rate for the respiratory form is 0·4 as compared with ·54 for 1945.

Notifications of the non-respiratory forms number 11, these being mainly in the age groups 3—15 years.

The case rate is 0·2.

TABLE VIII.
TUBERCULOSIS. NEW CASES AND MORTALITY DURING 1946.

		NEW CASES.				DEATHS.			
		Respiratory.		Non-Respiratory.		Respiratory.		Non-Respiratory.	
		M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1 year	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1	...	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—
5	...	1	2	3	3	—	—	—	1
15	...	3	2	—	—	—	3	—	—
25	...	4	—	—	1	1	—	—	—
35	...	1	1	—	—	—	2	—	—
45	...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
55	...	1	1	—	—	1	—	—	—
65 and upwards	...	1	1	1	—	—	2	—	—
TOTAL	...	12	7	4	7	2	7	—	1

TABLE IX.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES, 1946

ANALYSIS OF DEATHS.

DISEASES.	CASES NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR.														DEATHS FROM INFECTIOUS DISEASES DURING THE YEAR.									
	All Ages		under 1		1 2		2 3		3 4		4 5		5 10		10 15		15 20		20 35		35 45		45 65	
	All Ages		under 1		1 2		2 3		3 4		4 5		5 10		10 15		15 20		20 35		35 45		45 65	
	Cases removed to Hospital.		All under 1		1 2		2 3		3 4		4 5		5 10		10 15		15 20		20 35		35 45		45 65	
Smallpox ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet fever ...	87	—	—	—	2	2	—	6	—	—	—	—	50	1	12	7	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria ...	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Typhoid ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Para-typhoid ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia ...	24	1	1	1	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	1	1	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas ...	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cerebro-spinal fever ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Poliomyelitis ...	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ophthalmia neonatorum ...	4	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal pyrexia ...	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tuberculosis :—																								
Respiratory ...	19	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	1	3	6	2	3	2	2	1	2	2
Non-Respiratory ...	11	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	3	3	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles ...	28	1	3	3	7	1	1	3	6	2	—	—	6	6	2	3	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping cough ...	88	3	13	13	8	12	11	38	2	2	—	—	38	38	2	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery ...	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	279	9	17	17	17	17	23	104	22	11	24	9	20	6	29	25	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

QUARTERLY NOTIFICATIONS OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES. TABLE X.

Disease.	1st Quarter.	2nd Quarter.	3rd Quarter.	4th Quarter.	Totals.
Scarlet fever	31	17	15	24	87
Diphtheria	1	—	—	1	2
Typhoid	—	—	1	—	1
Para-typhoid	—	1	—	—	1
Pneumonia	14	1	2	7	24
Erysipelas	1	1	—	2	4
Cerebro-spinal fever ...	—	—	—	1	1
Poliomyelitis	—	—	2	1	3
Ophthalmia neonatorum	2	1	1	—	4
Puerperal pyrexia ...	—	—	1	1	2
Tuberculosis :					
Respiratory	5	5	7	2	19
Non-respiratory ...	5	2	2	2	11
Measles	6	9	11	2	28
Whooping cough ...	15	12	35	26	88
Dysentery	2	1	—	1	4
TOTALS	82	50	77	70	279

INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED IN WARDS. TABLE XI.

WARD.	Scarlet fever	Diphtheria	Typhoid	Para-typhoid	Pneumonia	Erysipelas	Cerebro-spinal fever	Poliomyelitis	Ophthalmia neonatorum	Puerperal pyrexia	Tuberculosis Respiratory	Tuberculosis Non-Respiratory	Measles	Whooping cough	Dysentery
Trinity ...	9	—	1	—	3	—	1	1	—	1	—	2	—	9	—
Hill ...	16	1	—	—	2	1	—	1	—	1	2	2	1	3	—
Boldmere East ...	10	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	5	3	—
Boldmere West ...	14	1	—	—	10	—	—	—	—	—	4	3	6	17	—
Wylde Green	10	—	—	—	2	1	—	1	2	—	4	—	5	7	—
Maney ...	12	—	—	—	3	2	—	—	1	—	3	1	5	4	2
Walmley ...	16	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	3	3	6	45	2
TOTALS ...	87	2	1	1	24	4	1	3	4	2	19	11	28	88	4

INDEX.

	<i>pages</i>
Amusement fairs	15, 19
Bakehouses	13
Births	2, 6
Cerebro spinal meningitis	27
Child Life Protection	8
Cinemas	19
Cowsheds	13, 17
Dairies and milk shops	12, 17
Deaths	2, 6
Deaths, causes of	3
,, causes of and ages at	4
,, in Wards	5
Diphtheria	26
,, immunization	26
Dysentery	27
Factories	13, 14, 24, 25
,, (excluding bakehouses)	14, 18
Factory Outworkers	14
Food, unsound	21, 22, 23
Health Visitors	10
Health Visitors, summary of domiciliary visits	10
Home Helps	8
Housing statistics	19, 20
Ice Cream	13
Illegitimate children, care of	11
Infant mortality	10
Infectious diseases	12, 15, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30
Infectious diseases, notifications of	29
,, quarterly notification of	30
,, in Wards	30
Infestation	11
Maternity and Child Welfare	7
,, ,, ,, ,, clinics	9
,, ,, ,, ,, provision for	7
Maternal mortality	11
Measles	26
Meat, inspected and condemned	21, 22, 23

	<i>pages.</i>
Milk, designated	13
„ non-designated	13
Mortality by age and sex	5
Nuisances	15, 16
Nursing Homes	12
Ophthalmia neonatorum	28
Other foods	21, 22, 23
Overcrowding	20
Orthopaedic and other treatment	8
Paratyphoid	27
Pneumonia	27
Poliomyelitis	28
Population	2, 6
Population, local estimate	2
Population in Wards	2
Premature children, care of	11
Preserved foods, manufacture of	13, 18
Public conveniences	18
Public Health Act, 1936	10
Public houses	18
Puerperal pyrexia	28
Restaurants and kitchens	18
Retail purveyors	17
Sanitary circumstances of the Area	12
Scarlet fever	26
Schools, elementary	17
„ private	17
„ secondary	17
Shops	18
Slaughter houses	12
Staff	7
Statistics of Area	2
Tuberculosis	28
Typhoid	27
Vital statistics, extracts from	2
„ „ for past ten years	5
Visits, Sanitary Inspectors'	14
Whooping cough	27
„ „ immunization	27